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Global map for sustainable development

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management the report prepared by the working group for a global map for sustainable development, which is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the way forward for the international community, under the coordination and mandate of the United Nations, to work with all stakeholders to improve intergovernmental coordination for a sustained, operational global map for sustainable development.

Summary of the report

At its third session, held in July 2013, the Committee of Experts recognized the need for a closer working relationship between the working group for a global map for sustainable development and the International Steering Committee for Global Mapping and the need to specify a narrower focus that builds on existing standards and regional initiatives, to provide a clear understanding of the needs and requirements of the sustainable development user community and to collaborate with the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals.

The report describes the activities of the working group and summarizes the outcomes of the Chengdu Forum on the United Nations Initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management, held in Chengdu, China, from 15 to 17 October 2013, and the working group's interactions with the Open Working Group of the General Assembly, the high-level political forum on sustainable

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development and the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, from 14 to 18 March 2015. In addition, it outlines the collaboration between the working group and the International Steering Committee, in the context of which the former would assume an advisory role, while the latter would focus on the operational implementation of the work programme. In preparation for the working group's contribution to the post-2015 development agenda, it also draws attention to the need for more advocacy efforts in order to better understand the needs and requirements of the sustainable development user community. The global geospatial community should continue to demonstrate how geospatial methods and applications can enable effective policymaking and decision-making for enhanced sustainable development outcomes.